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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
7 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
8 WESTERN DIVISION

9 PRO-COM PRODUCTS, INC. a California
10 Corporation,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 KING'S EXPRESS LA, INC., a California
14 Corporation; INFINITY LOGISTICS, INC., a
15 suspended California Corporation, d/b/a
16 King's Express, Inc.; KING'S EXPRESS,
17 INC., a Minnesota corporation; KING'S
18 EXPRESS, INC., an unknown business entity;
19 DENNIS MCCORMICK, an Individual; and
20 JOHN VINCENT TARWATER, an
21 Individual,

22 Defendants.

Case No. 2:18-cv-06035-DMG-SK

STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

Judge: Hon. Steve Kim
Courtroom: 8C

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1. A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below, that this Stipulated

1 Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule
2 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a
3 party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

4 **B. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT**

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6 This action is likely to involve trade secrets, customer and pricing lists and other valuable
7 research, development, commercial, financial, technical and/or proprietary information for which
8 special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecution of
9 this action is warranted. Such confidential and proprietary materials and information consist of,
10 among other things, confidential business or financial information, information regarding
11 confidential business practices, or other confidential research, development, or commercial
12 information (including information implicating privacy rights of third parties), information
13 otherwise generally unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise protected
14 from disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions, or common law.
15 Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes
16 over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately protect information the parties are
17 entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of
18 such material in preparation for and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of
19 the litigation, and serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in
20 this matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as confidential for
21 tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good faith belief that it has been
22 maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is good cause why it should not be part
23 of the public record of this case.

24 **2. DEFINITIONS**

25 2.1 Action: This case, captioned as Pro-Com Products, Inc. v. King's Express LA, Inc., et
26 al., Case No. 2:18-cv-06035-DMG-SK, as well as the related action, captioned as *Harleysville*
27 *Insurance Company. v. King's Express, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 2:19-cv-03817-CBM-SK.

28 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation of information
or items under this Order.

1 2.3 "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items: information (regardless of how it is
2 generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule
3 of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good Cause Statement.

4 2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their support staff).

5 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or items that it
6 produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as "CONFIDENTIAL."

7 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of the medium
8 or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things,
9 testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or generated in disclosures or
10 responses to discovery in this matter.

11 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to the
12 litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a
13 consultant in this Action.

14 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action. House Counsel
15 does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside counsel.

16 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal
17 entity not named as a Party to this action.

18 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party to this Action
19 but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have appeared in this Action on
20 behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which has appeared on behalf of that party,
21 and includes support staff.

22 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors, employees,
23 consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their support staffs).

24 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material
25 in this Action.

26 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support services (e.g.,
27 photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or demonstrations, and organizing,
28 storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium) and their employees and subcontractors.

 2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as
"CONFIDENTIAL."

 2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a
Producing Party.

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2 **3. SCOPE**

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4 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only Protected Material
5 (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from Protected Material; (2)
6 all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony,
7 conversations, or presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

8 Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the trial judge.
9 This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

10 **4. DURATION**

11 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations imposed by this
12 Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order
13 otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims
14 and defenses in this Action, with or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the
15 completion and exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,
16 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time pursuant to
17 applicable law.

18 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

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20 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or
21 Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this Order must take care to
22 limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. The
23 Designating Party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or
24 oral or written communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,
25 items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within
26 the ambit of this Order.

27 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are
28 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to

unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or produced.

Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

(a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the "CONFIDENTIAL legend" to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

(b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the deposition all protected testimony.

(c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend "CONFIDENTIAL." If only

1 a portion or portions of the information warrants protection, the Producing Party, to the extent
2 practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

3 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
4 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party's
5 right to secure protection under this Order for such material. Upon timely correction of a
6 designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated
7 in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

8 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

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10 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of
11 confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's Scheduling Order.

12 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process
13 under Local Rule 37.1 et seq.

14 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating
15 Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose
16 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to
17 sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation,
18 all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is
19 entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

20 **7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

21 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or
22 produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this Action only for prosecuting,
23 defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to
24 the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has
25 been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL
26 DISPOSITION).

27 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in
28 a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.

1 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by
2 the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any
3 information or item designated “CONFIDENTIAL” only to:

4 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well as
5 employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the
6 information for this Action;

7 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
8 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

9 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is
10 reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement
11 to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

12 (d) the court and its personnel;

13 (e) court reporters and their staff;

14 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional Vendors to
15 whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
16 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

17 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian
18 or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

19 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in the Action to
20 whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party requests that the witness
21 sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto; and (2) they will not be permitted to keep any
22 confidential information unless they sign the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”
23 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of
24 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be
25 separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted
26 under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

27 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel, mutually
28 agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

29 **8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
30 OTHER LITIGATION**

1 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
2 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
3 "CONFIDENTIAL," that Party must:

4 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall include
5 a copy of the subpoena or court order;

6 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue
7 in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject
8 to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order;
9 and

10 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the
11 Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

12 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena
13 or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action as "CONFIDENTIAL"
14 before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has
15 obtained the Designating Party's permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and
16 expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these
17 provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to
18 disobey a lawful directive from another court.

19 **9. A NON-PARTY'S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE PRODUCED IN**
20 **THIS LITIGATION**

21 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a Non-Party
22 in this Action and designated as "CONFIDENTIAL." Such information produced by Non-Parties
23 in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Order.
24 Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking
25 additional protections.

26 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a
27 Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement
28 with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's confidential information, then the Party shall:

(1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that
some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;

1 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated Protective
2 Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description of the
3 information requested; and

4 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-
5 Party, if requested.

6 (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within 14 days
7 of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party may produce the Non-
8 Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks
9 a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its possession or
10 control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination
11 by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and
12 expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

13 **10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

14 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected
15 Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Stipulated Protective
16 Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the
17 unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected
18 Material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the
19 terms of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and
20 Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

21 **11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE 22 PROTECTED MATERIAL**

23 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain inadvertently
24 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the
25 Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision
26 is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that
27 provides for production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence
28 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure of a
communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection,

1 the parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated protective order submitted to the
2 court.

3 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

5 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek
6 its modification by the Court in the future.

7 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order
8 no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any
9 information or item on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no
10 Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered
11 by this Protective Order.

12 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material
13 must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant
14 to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's
15 request to file Protected Material under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may
16 file the information in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

17 **13. FINAL DISPOSITION**

18 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within 60 days of a
19 written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material
20 to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this subdivision, "all Protected
21 Material" includes all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, and any other format
22 reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned
23 or destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and,
24 if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that (1) identifies
25 (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed and (2)
26 affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries
27 or any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this
28 provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial,
deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial

1 exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if
2 such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute
3 Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

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8 14. Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate measures including,
9 without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary sanctions.

10 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

11 DATED: November 29, 2019

12 By: /s/ James H. Park
13 James H. Park
14 Attorney for Plaintiff
Pro-Com Products, Inc.
a California corporation

15 DATED: November 29, 2019

16 By: /s/ Jill Glennon (with consent)
17 Jill Glennon, Esq.
18 Attorney for Defendants King's Express, Inc,
19 Infinity Logistics, Inc. and Dennis McCormick

20 DATED: November 29, 2019

21 By: /s/ Ira G. Rivin (with consent)
22 Ira G. Rivin
23 Attorney for Defendants King's Express LA,
Inc. and John Vincent Tarwater

24 DATED: November 29, 2019

25 By: /s/ Tim G. Ceperley (with consent)
26 Tim G. Ceperley
27 Attorney for Defendant King's Express, Inc.
28 and Infinity Logistics, Inc.

1 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

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3 DATED: December 2, 2019

4 By:



5 Honorable Steve Kim
6 United States Magistrate Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of California on [date] in the case of _____ [insert formal name of the case and the number and initials assigned to it by the court]. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full name] of _____ [print or type full address and telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____